



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

**Disability Employment Awareness Month**

**WHEREAS**, workplaces welcoming the talents of all people, including people with disabilities, are a critical part of our efforts to build an inclusive community and strong economy; and

**WHEREAS**, in this spirit, the State of Rhode Island is joining the national recognition of Disability Employment Awareness Month this October to raise awareness about employment of people with disabilities and celebrate the many and varied workforce contributions of people with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, we celebrate with the Rhode Island Department of Human Services, the Office of Rehabilitation Services, and the State Rehabilitation Council as they recognize nine employers at the 12th Employer Honor Roll Awards Ceremony for their excellence in hiring and retention of employees with disabilities and to their employees for achieving their employment goal; and


**WHEREAS**, the State of Rhode Island calls on employers of all industries, including state government, to lead the way by implementing effective internship/mentoring programs as well as employment hiring and retention practices that increase opportunities and help workers with disabilities achieve their full potential; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Rhode Island recognizes the Rhode Island Business Leadership Network for their effort to champion employment and retention of people with disabilities through offering employers a business-to-business resource throughout the year; and


**WHEREAS**, in order to maintain and strengthen the ability of Rhode Island businesses to compete, we strive to ensure that all Rhode Islanders, including those with disabilities, have the opportunity to contribute to their full potential believing that a strong workforce is an inclusive workforce; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim October 2012 as Disability Employment Awareness Month in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to recognize the importance of this month.



  
A. Ralph Mollis  
Secretary of State

Given under my hand and the great  
seal of the State of Rhode Island  
and Providence Plantations,  
this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2012

  
Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor